

# Public Information Meeting

Metro-North Railroad Bridge  
over the Saugatuck River, Westport  
State Project No. 301-0040



## Rehabilitation of the Saga Bridge in Westport, CT

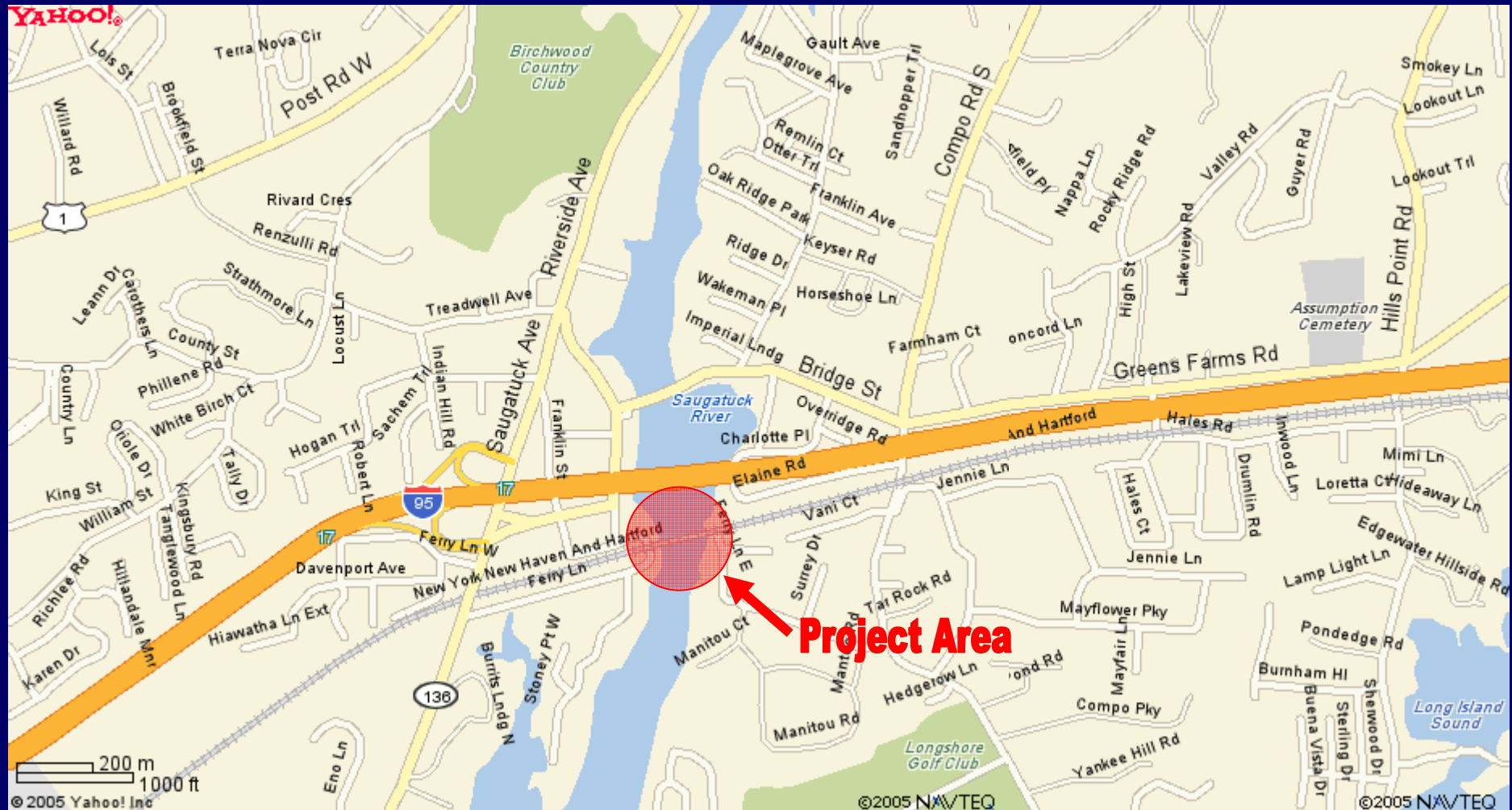


**Metro North Railroad  
New Haven Main Line**

**April 24, 2006**



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# Project Description

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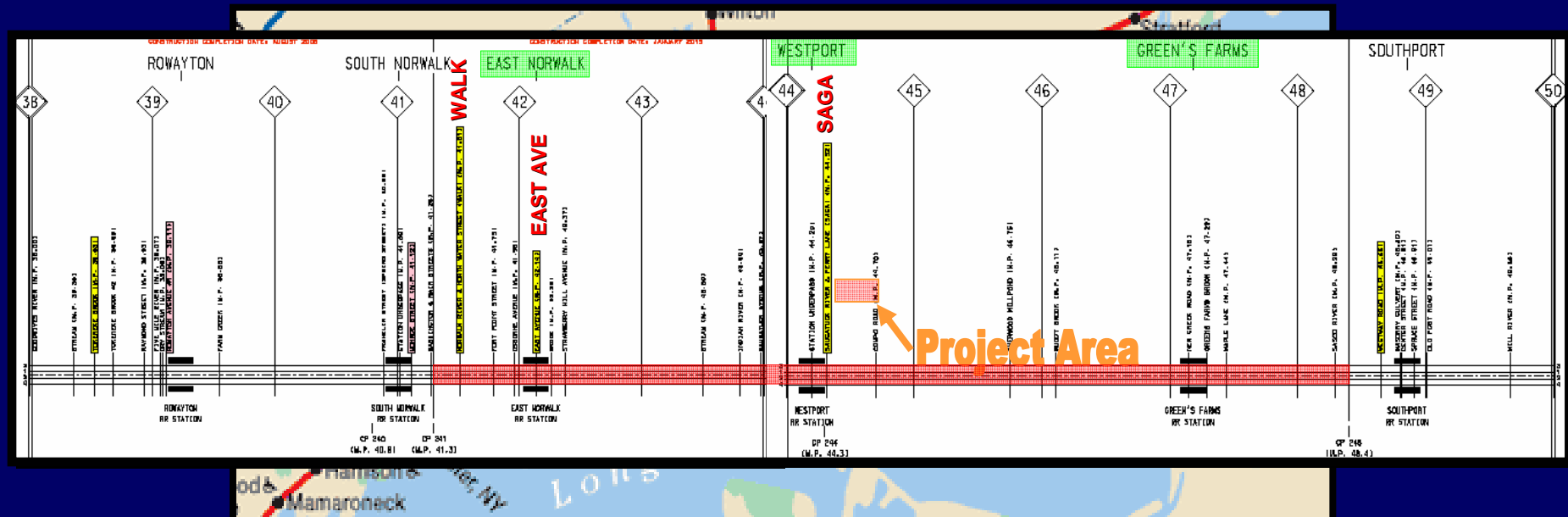


- Rehabilitation of The Metro-North Bridge over the Saugatuck River is part of larger project that includes:

Rehabilitation of seven miles of catenary power systems (C1A),

Rehabilitation of the Walk Bridge in Norwalk

Replacement of the East Avenue Bridge in Norwalk





# Bridge Description

Metro-North Railroad Bridge  
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- **Metro-North Railroad Bridge over the Saugatuck River**
  - The six span bridge is 455 feet long and carries four (4) tracks
  - Span 3 is a 108'-6" rolling lift moveable span which opens to provide clearance for marine traffic.
  - Three (3) foot wide pedestrian walkway on south side of bridge.
  - Rail traffic on normal weekday schedule:
    - 36 eastbound Metro-North trains
    - 36 westbound Metro-North trains
    - 12 eastbound and 13 westbound AMTRAK trains
    - One freight line train eastbound and westbound

# History of Bridge

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- In 1844 the New York and New Haven Railroad built first bridge at site.
- Original bridge was a two track swing bridge
- New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad Company expanded shoreline route to four tracks from 1898 to 1908
- Present Saga Bridge built in 1905

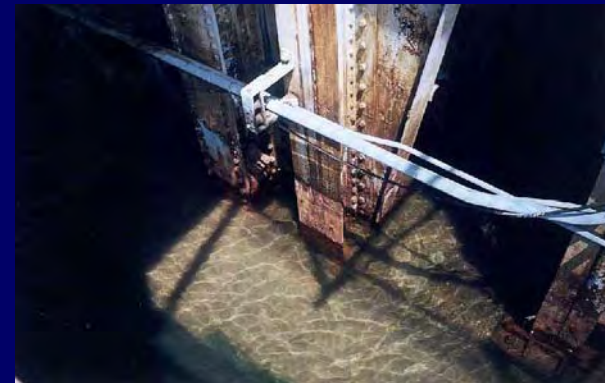


# Existing Conditions

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- Existing bridge exhibits deterioration of the steel in the superstructure and lower support steel of the movable span.
- Lower support steel gets submerged during high tide.



# Existing Conditions

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- **Counterweight and portion of the moveable span is also submerged during openings.**



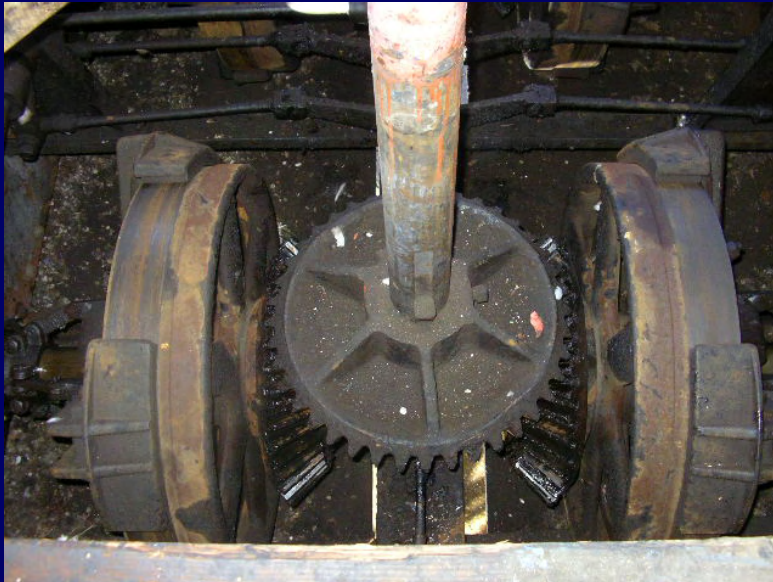


# Existing Conditions

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- Existing drive system is old and difficult to maintain and operate.





# Existing Conditions

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- Major repairs have been made to the bridge over the 100+ years it has been in service.
- Past rehabilitation has included steel repairs on movable spans and support steel, bearings, segmental girder and rack girder.
- Steel sections have also been repaired as part of the ongoing maintenance repairs.



# Proposed Rehabilitation

Metro-North Railroad Bridge  
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- **Replace the existing moveable spans**
- **Rehabilitate existing steel in approach spans**
- **Construct new operator's house and new drive system**
- **Construct new pedestrian walkway**
- **Replace existing fender system**
- **Replace the existing track (ties and rails) for the entire bridge**

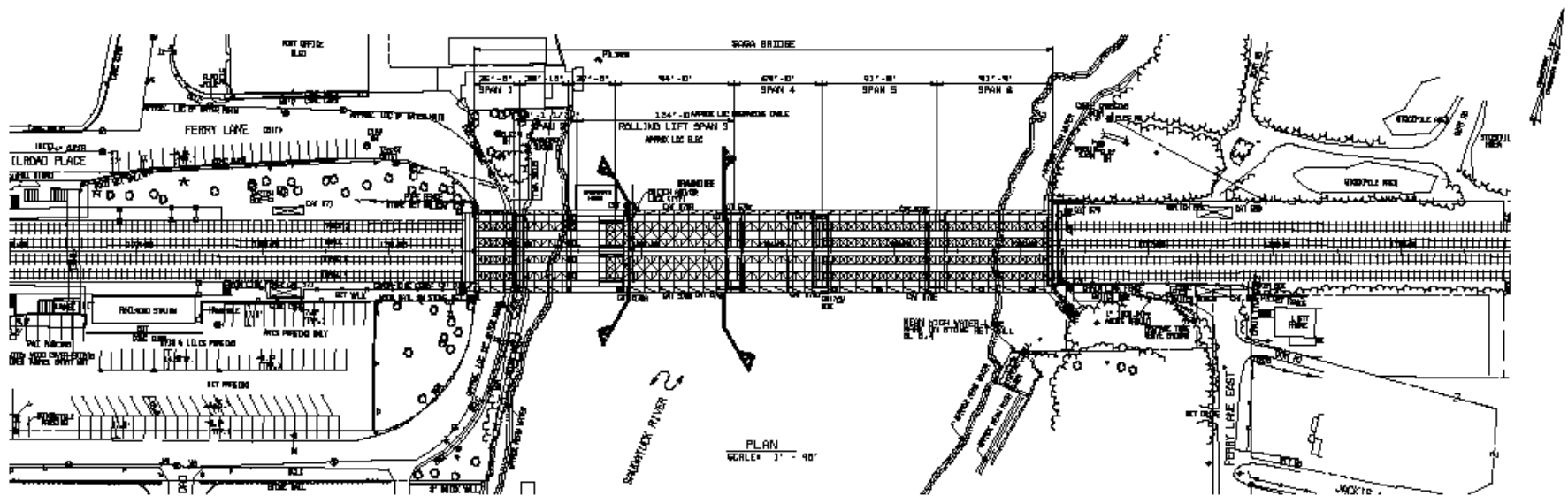


# Proposed Rehabilitation

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- General Plan Showing Proposed Rehabilitation

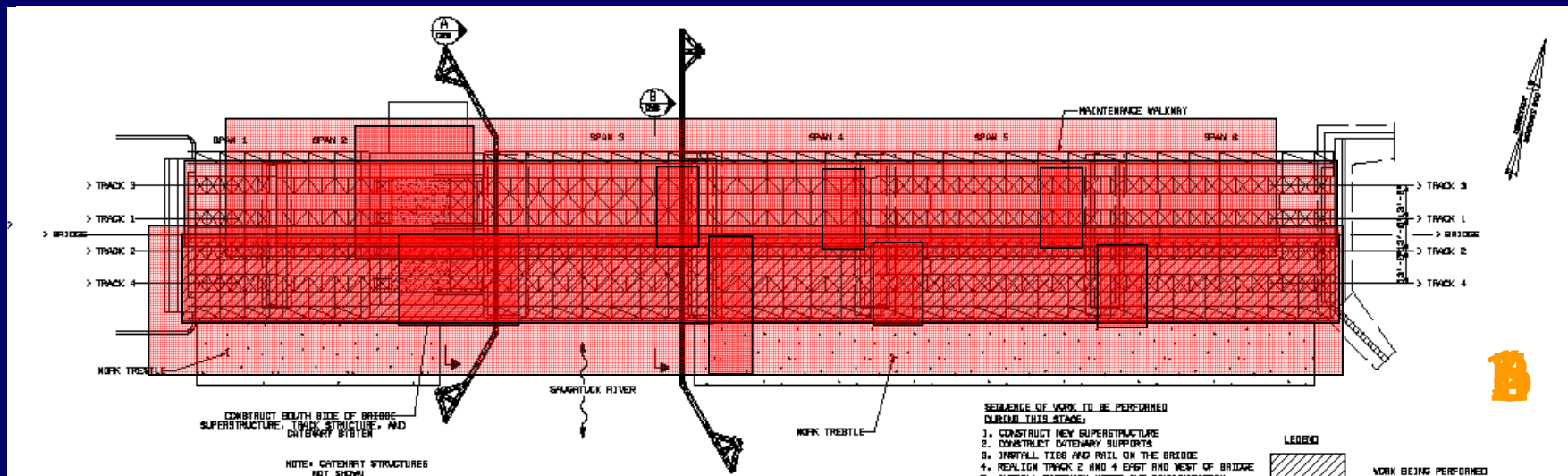


# Construction Issues

Metro-North Railroad Bridge  
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- Duration of proposed construction is approximately 4 years
- Projected Start - Spring 2010
- Construction to consist of two stages. Each stage will work on two tracks with the other two tracks open to train traffic.





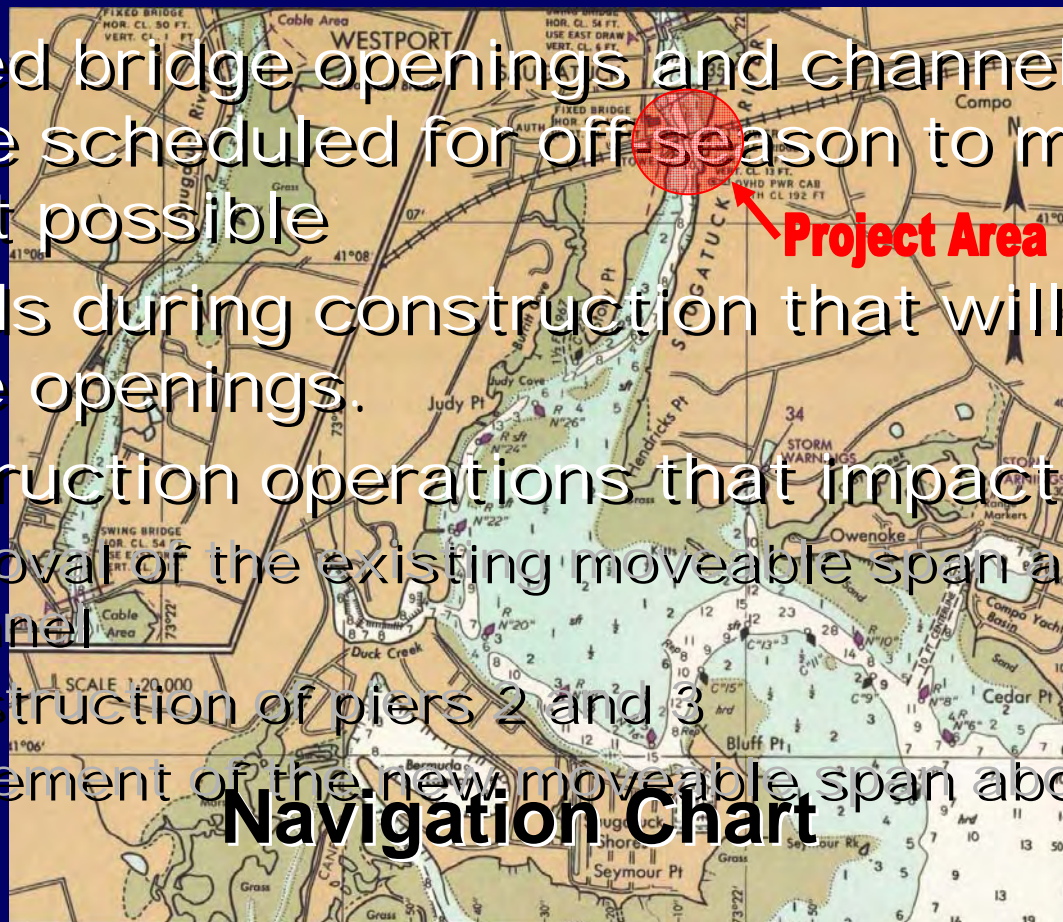
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## • Marine Traffic

- Limited bridge openings and channel closures will be scheduled for off-season to maximum extent possible
- Periods during construction that will limit bridge openings.
- Construction operations that impact channel:
  - Removal of the existing moveable span above channel
  - Construction of piers 2 and 3
  - Placement of the new moveable span above channel





# Construction Issues

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- **Pedestrian Walkway**

- The new pedestrian walkway will remain on the south side of the bridge. A new access walkway will be constructed on the north side of the bridge for access to the operator's house.
- The pedestrian walkway will be 5 feet wide.
- During the construction of the south half of the bridge, there will be no pedestrian access on the bridge.
- The new pedestrian walkway will have safety gates and video monitoring.
- A safety fence will be constructed between the pedestrian walkway and the railroad tracks.



# Construction Issues

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- **Local Traffic - Ferry Lane**

- Ferry Lane, directly under bridge, may be closed during off-peak times
- Traffic along Ferry Lane will be one-way directional to account for peak commuting hours



# Construction Issues

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- **Impact to Rail Service**
  - Seven miles of track will be restricted to two track operation between East Norwalk station to Green's Farm station
  - Temporary platforms will be required at East Norwalk, Westport and Green's Farm stations





# Architectural Considerations

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- **Operator's House**

- Relocated to north side of tracks

- **Pedestrian Walkway**

- Fencing
- Railings







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